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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/635,376	08/06/2003	Stephan Lederer	P03,0308	1294

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EXAMINER

RILEY, SHAWN

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2838

DATE MAILED: 10/27/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/635,376	LEDERER, STEPHAN	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Shawn Riley	2838	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-11 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-3, 5-7, 9-11 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 4 and 8 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____. |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date ____. | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: ____. |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. § 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless --

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

2. Claims 1-3, 5-7, and 9-11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being fully anticipated by D'Aleo et al. (U.S. Patent 5,196,782). D'Aleo et al shows,¹ (in, e.g., the(ir) figures 5-7 and corresponding disclosure)

As to claim 1;

A voltage regulation system for a spatially remote user (user is the person who depresses switch 51), comprising: an adjustable voltage supply (e.g., 47 is adjustable, see, e.g., column 5 lines 49-63) for the user; a measuring circuit (43/50) producing a measured signal allocated to the user; a sensor line (output of 43) for transmission of said measured signal; and a setting device connected to the voltage supply (IC2 {including output}/wiper movement device/41).

¹ Note claims will be addressed individually and the material in parentheses are the examiner's annotated comments. Further unless needed for clarity reasons, recited limitation(s), will be annotated only upon their first occurrence. Annotated claims begin with the phrase "As to claim". Claims that are not annotated are seen as having already had the invention(s) addressed previously in an annotated claim. Bolded words/phrases indicate rejected material based 112 paragraph rejections. Underlined

Art Unit: 2838

As to claim 2;

The voltage regulation system according to claim 1 wherein the measuring circuit comprises a comparator (50) that compares a voltage present at the user (V_c) to a voltage of a reference voltage (V_m) source.

As to claim 3;

The voltage regulation system according to claim 1 wherein the setting device comprises an integrator (C2, see figure 6) that influences a setting element of the adjustable voltage supply.

As to claim 5 (see rejection of claim 1);

A voltage regulation system, comprising: a voltage regulator comprising a variable voltage supply, and a setting circuit connected to vary the voltage supply; a remote user having first and second voltage supply lines each having an associated line resistance and connecting the voltage supply of the voltage regulator to a load of the remote user; and at the user, a measuring circuit having as an input a sensed signal from the load and an output connected via a single sensor line only to an input of said setting circuit.

As to claim 6 (see rejection of claim 2);

The system according to claim 5 wherein the measuring circuit comprises an operational amplifier having a constant reference voltage source at one input and said sensed signal from said user load at the other input.

As to claim 7 (see rejection of claim 3);

The system according to claim 5 wherein said setting circuit comprises an inverting operational amplifier having its output connected to said voltage supply and its input connected to said sensor line.

AS to claims 9-10, For method claims, note that under MPEP 2112.02, the principles of

words/phrases indicate objected to material.

Art Unit: 2838

inherency, if a prior art device, in its normal and usual operation, would necessarily perform the method claimed, then the method claimed will be considered to be anticipated by the prior art device. When the prior art device is the same as a device described in the specification for carrying out the claimed method, it can be assumed the device will inherently perform the claimed process. In re King, 801 F.2d 1324, 231 USPQ 136 (Fed. Cir. 1986). Therefore the previous rejections based on the apparatus will not be repeated.

9. A method for regulating a remote user, comprising the steps of: providing a voltage supply positioned remotely from said remote user; providing a measurement circuit at said remote user which outputs a signal indicative of an operating condition of a load of said remote user, said signal being sent on single sensor line only; and adjusting said voltage supply located remotely from said user by use of said signal from said single sensor line.

As to claim 10;

The method according to claim 9 wherein said signal is integrated (integrated into the control device) for control of said voltage supply.

As to claim 11;

The system according to claim 9 wherein said signal on said single sensor line is digital (input into X9103P is at least digital at pin 1).

Allowable Subject Matter

3. As allowable subject matter has been indicated, applicant's response must either comply with all formal requirements or specifically traverse each requirement not complied with. See 37 C.F.R. § 1.111(b) and section 707.07(a) of the M.P.E.P.

Art Unit: 2838


4. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: No prior art uncovered anticipates or renders obvious applicant(s) claimed circuitry or method of voltage regulation system wherein the setting device includes a capacitor being connected between an output of the inverting operational amplifier and said inverting operational amplifier input.

1. Claims 4 and 8 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Conclusion

Any inquiry from other than the applicant/attorney of record concerning this communication or earlier communications from the Examiner should be directed to the Patent Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 1.866.217.9197. Any inquiry from a member of the press concerning this communication or earlier communications from the Examiner or the application should be directed to the Office of Public Affairs at 703.305.8341. Any inquiry from the applicant or an attorney of record concerning this communication or earlier communications from the Examiner should be directed to Examiner Riley whose telephone number is 571.272.2083. The Examiner can normally be reached Monday through Thursday from 7:30-6:00 p.m. Eastern Standard Time. The Examiner's Supervisor is Mike Sherry who can be reached at 571.272.2084. Any inquiry about a case's location, retrieval of a case, or receipt of an amendment into a case or information regarding sent correspondence to a case **should be directed to 2800's Customer Service Center** at 571.272.2815. Any papers to be sent by fax MUST BE sent to fax number 703.872.9306. Any inquiry of a general nature of this application should be **directed to the Group receptionist** whose telephone number is 571.272.2800. Status information of cases may be found at <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov> wherein unpublished application information is found through private PAIR and published application information is found through public PAIR. Further help on using the PAIR system is available at 1.866.217.9197 (Electronic Business Center).

October 04


Shawn Riley
Primary Examiner